

# WINDMILL NEWS

Friends of West Blatchington Windmill - Newsletter - November 2022

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## MYSTERY SKETCH



## CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR



Reg. Charity No. 283815

A variety of stalls offering gifts for all ,  
many handmade and unique.

**Saturday 11am - 4pm**  
**26 November 2022**

We are delighted to offer our two festive offerings again this year. The Gift Fair is a small, friendly gathering with stalls by local crafts and start up businesses. See the [website page](#) for a taster.

The Carols evening will again be accompanied by hot food and drinks, Santa and a Raffle in aid of The Martletts.

**Martletts**

## CAROLS at the Mill

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - 7pm**

Donations for Raffle sought - contact [fwbwindmill@gmail.com](mailto:fwbwindmill@gmail.com)

This framed beauty has been kindly donated by John Piper, a member of Sussex Industrial Archaeological Society, who contacted us asking if we would be interested in it for the Museum. It was given to him by his neighbour and was apparently done by a member of her family, a Peter Saunders.

After some research, it would seem to have been done in 1938, by a then 17 year old local artist. Peter went on to become Head of the Art Department at the Brighton Herald, and one of his paintings of Old Hove Town Hall on fire is held by the Royal Pavilion and Museums Trust.

As for this lovely pen and ink sketch, this would have been the view from the church looking south, and a similar view is captured by a postcard in our collection. This is one year after the Mill was purchased by Hove Corporation and two years after the fire that destroyed the South Barn.

**[www.westblatchingtonwindmill.org](http://www.westblatchingtonwindmill.org)**

# When Teddies came to Play

Our final monthly event turned out to be a very jolly occasion. We entertained 24 local children aged between 2 and 8 years. The day saw the debut of Windmill Ted 'Peter', who is very proud of his Windmill T-Shirt.

The first activity was a Bear Hunt, in which the children had to find 10 Windmill Teds that we had hidden in the East Barn, North Barn and Museum. Each Ted wore a large label with a name that the children had to write down and then identify the link. (Children's TV) As they were nearly all accompanied by at least 2 adults, you can imagine the scenes inside the Windmill during the Hunt!



As the completed hunt cards were handed in each child received their very own Ted! They then descended on the picnic table, resplendent with a variety of goodies including teddy shaped biscuits. Most of them made Teddy bear ears and all had a go at naming the Teddy.

We were very lucky with the weather and delighted by the behaviour and enjoyment of our guests. Reckon we should do it again next year!



See more pictures [here](#)

## Welcoming the Young

As we prepared to put the Windmill to bed for the close season, the wonderful members of the local Guide and Scouting communities descended upon us.

A large group of Cubs from Shoreham Sea Scouts came on a Wednesday evening to explore the Windmill as part of their Local Knowledge Badge. This requires them to find out about a local building or landmark.

Next came the Rainbows of West Blatchington & 1st Hangleton, who attended in good numbers. It was lovely to hear the sound of children's voices, and feet, in the old Mill. Our president, Peter, was in his element entertaining the excited faces!

The 1st Hangleton Brownies, were also suitably enthusiastic as they had their Local History Badge to earn.

Activities included attempting to rotate the quern stone to produce flour from the grain, pulling the hoist to learn how it worked, observing the different ways to make the mill wheel turn and, of course, spending a little pocket money in the shop!

Finally we were a 'location' on the Monopoly Run that Girlguiding Hove had to visit during their Big Day Out in October. Over 3 hours we were visited by 12 different groups, some of whom had walked across town via other locations and took the opportunity to 'lunch' on the grass.

In all instances the children were a credit to their organisation. Thank you!



## On a Sad Note

Having been involved with the mill for nigh on 45 years, I suppose it is to be expected that as the years fly by gradually one becomes the 'last of the few' and undoubtedly this is how I find myself now! Earlier this year we lost John Kapp, who had been a very loyal and enthusiastic supporter of the mill, always willing to step in as a guide when necessary. Within the last week we heard of the unexpected loss of David Ansell, who along with his wife Pam, has been so supportive of our events and so proud of what we have achieved over the years.

Then to cap it all, has come the very sad news of the demise of Dave Whittington, the great grandson of the last miller. It was thanks to him that we have managed to authentically restore several aspects of the mill, not least of all, it was him who managed to get the 'dummy' set of millstones turning to demonstrate how the grain was ground to produce flour for our daily bread. He was a real character and we will miss his enthusiasm and humour. However, all is not lost, as we now have his equally enthusiastic son James to continue the Whittington mill heritage.

*Peter Hill*

### Would you consider becoming part of our Committee?

Enthusiastic persons sought to add their voice to our planning and help facilitate our future. Please contact our Secretary for more details.

[fwbwindmill@gmail.com](mailto:fwbwindmill@gmail.com)

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

Digital newsletter copies have been emailed to 'Friends' where possible. They are also available to read or download from our [website](#), and will also be shared on our Facebook [page](#). Please send any ideas and/or contributions for the next edition via [email](#) with **Newsletter** in the subject line.

*Sue Burgess*

**Next Edition: February 2023**